



NEWS RELEASE

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HUDGENS: FORMER INSURANCE AGENT ARRESTED FOR FRAUD

Atlanta – Insurance Commissioner Ralph Hudgens announced today that an investigation by his office has resulted in a former Cobb County insurance agent being arrested on insurance fraud charges.

Juan Pablo Navas, 30, of Mableton, has been charged with six counts of insurance fraud, three counts of financial transaction card fraud and four counts of forgery for allegedly keeping premiums paid to him for insurance coverage. Navas was arrested this morning in Cobb County and transported to the Gwinnett County Jail for booking.

Commissioner Hudgens said Navas was working for Velox Insurance Agency located at 5261 Buford Highway, Norcross, Ga., at the time the alleged crimes occurred. Numerous clients of the agency complained that they were getting cancellation notices from their insurers, claiming lack of payment for automobile policies and workers' compensation coverage though the clients had paid their premiums directly to Navas and received paperwork verifying coverage.

"Our investigation has turned up numerous victims of this scam and we expect for additional charges to be filed," Commissioner Hudgens said. "Velox Insurance has made good on all the missing payments, so their clients now have the coverage they paid for."

Hudgens urges anyone who believes they have purchased insurance from Navas, to contact his Consumer Services Division at 404-656-2070. Hudgens will also have staff at Velox Insurance on June 3-4 from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. to meet with Velox clients with questions about this investigation.

Insurance fraud is a felony with a penalty of two to 10 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$10,000.